

Town of Barrington
Inclement Weather Policy for Athletic Fields

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to guide the use of the Town of Barrington's athletic fields in inclement weather in an effort to prevent damage to the playing surface and injuries to field users. Play during inclement weather may cause surface wear, compaction and root zone damage which results in sub-standard conditions for subsequent users and increases maintenance costs and down-time. Groups using the fields are requested to cooperate in this effort by accepting and adhering to the following policy.

POLICY

Use of an athletic field is prohibited under the following conditions:

1. A steady rain is falling;
2. A lightening or electrical storm is occurring or threatening;
3. There are puddles on the field;
4. The ground is muddy and/or the soil is frozen; or
5. If a footstep leaves an impression in the turf or if grass is removed easily with a cleat;

Coaches shall evaluate fields before beginning practices/games each day. Practices and games must be cancelled or postponed if any of the conditions outlined above exist. Should weather conditions change once practices/games are underway, the fields must be vacated at the conclusion of the practice/game then underway (except in the case of a lightening or electrical storm, when play should be halted immediately).

The Recreation Director and representatives of the Department of Public Works and the Park and Recreation Commission shall have the ability to override the decision of league officials that any specific field(s) is playable.

SANCTIONS

Fields will be monitored by the Recreation Director and the Department of Public Works. If it is determined that a field has been damaged as a result of practices/games conducted in violation of the Inclement Weather Policy, the cost of repairing the damage will be assessed by the Park & Recreation Commission to the league having caused the damage. Failure to pay the damage assessment within 14 days will result in suspension of the entire league until payment is made. Assessments imposed may be appealed to the Town Manager within 10 days of the imposition of sanctions. Appeals must be in writing and set forth the grounds upon which the appeal is based.

At the discretion of the Park and Recreation Commission, any team which repeatedly violates the policy may have their field use privileges suspended for a period of time to be determined under the following schedule:

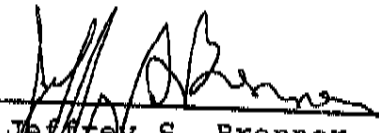
First violation: Written warning issued to league official and all involved coaches.

Second violation: Use of fields by involved teams suspended for 1 week.

Third and subsequent violations: Use of fields by entire league suspended for 1 week.

Adopted by the Barrington Town Council on March 3, 2008.

Vote: 5 Yes
0 No



Jeffrey S. Brenner, President
Barrington Town Council